

Message Text

PAGE 01 MONROV 06881 171234Z

50
ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-10 EUR-25 ACDA-19 IO-14 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAB-01 DRC-01

CPR-02 /168 W
----- 020690

R 171133Z DEC 73
FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 439
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MONROVIA 6881

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, XA, XF, LI, US, IS
SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGES ON MIDDLE EAST PEACE CONFERENCE

1. IN TWO IDENTICAL NOTES DELIVERED TO EMBASSY SUNDAY AFTERNOON DECEMBER 16, 1973, GOL MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS REQUESTED FOLLOWING MESSAGE BE DELIVERED PRESIDENT NIXON AND PRIME MINSTER MEIR QUOTE FELLOW CITIZENS AND FOREIGN RESIDENTS IN OUR MIDST, DR. WILLIAM R. TOLBERT, JR., PRESIDENT OF LIBERIA, WHO HAS CONTINUINGLY DEMONSTRATED A DEEP AND ABIDING CONCERN FOR PEACE AND WHO HAS PERSISTENTLY TAKEN INITIATIVES WITH THE SINCERE HOPE THAT A JUST AND LASTING PEACE WILL BE OCCASIONED IN THE MIDDLE EAST, DIRECTS THAT I BRING YOU THIS MESSAGE ON THE EVE OF THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE CONFERENCE SCHEDULED TO CONVENE IN GENEVA, SWITZERLAND ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1973.

OVER THE PAST TWENTY FIVE YEARS, FOUR TERRIBLE AND DESTRUCTIVE WARS HAVE BEEN FOUGHT IN THE MIDDLE EAST. THE TREMENDOUS LOSS OF HUMAN LIVES WHICH HAS RESULTED HAS BEEN TRAGIC FOR THE FAMILIES OF THOSE WHO HAVE GIVEN THEIR LIVES, THE COUNTRIES WHOSE SONS AND DAUGHTERS HAVE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MONROV 06881 171234Z

FALLEN, AND INDEED FOR ALL MANKIND, BECAUSE IN OUR ONE WORLD WE SHARE A COMMON HUMANITY.

THESE WARS HAVE ALSO CAUSED THE WANTON DESTRUCTION OF

PROPERTY, AND THE DIVERSION OF EFFORTS AND MUCH NEEDED CAPITAL FROM THE TASK OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND THE BETTERMENT OF THE LIVES OF THE PEOPLES OF THESE AREAS TO THE MANUFACTURE AND PURCHASE OF IMPLEMENTS DESIGNED TO DESTROY HUMAN LIFE.

TIME AND TIME AGAIN IT HAS BEEN SHOWN THAT PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST CANNOT BE ATTAINED BY WARFARE: WHAT HAS FOLLOWED EACH WAR HAS PROVED NOT TO BE PEACE, BUT ONLY A DANGEROUS LULL BETWEEN THE BATTLES, AND EACH WAR HAS MERELY LAID THE GROUNDWORK FOR THE NEXT WITH MOUNTING HUMAN AND MATERIAL LOSSES.

AS IT IS NOW APPARENT THAT A GENUINE AND LASTING PEACE CAN NEVER BE ATTAINED BY MILITARY MEANS ALONE; THAT NO NATION AND PEOPLE CAN TRULY FEEL SECURE, HOWEVER DEFENSIBLE THEIR BORDERS, PRESIDENT TOLBERT CONTINUES TO STRESS THAT THOSE UNDERLYING SOCIAL AND POLITICAL PROBLEMS WHICH NURTURE SUSPICION, INTOLERANCE, AND ENMITY BETWEEN PEOPLES MUST BE SQUARELY CONFRONTED AND JUSTLY AND FAIRLY RESOLVED.

IT IS THE FERVENT HOPE OF THE PRESIDENT THAT ALL OF THE PARTIES INVOLVED IN THE MIDDLE EAST WAR, INCLUDING REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE, AS WELL AS CERTAIN OTHER COUNTRIES, WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE PEACE CONFERENCE TO BE CONVENED IN GENEVA, SWITZERLAND, WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF ESTABLISHING A PERMANENT PEACE WITH JUSTICE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. THIS IS A MOMENTOUS OCCASION FOR IT REPRESENTS THE BEST HOPE FOR THE REALIZATION OF SUCH A PEACE IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE.

THE PRESIDENT IS AWARE THAT THE REACHING OF AN UNDERSTANDING WILL NOT BE EASY; THAT DIFFICULT ISSUES MUST BE CONSIDERED AND RESOLVED, AND THAT THE FEARS AND MISTRUSTS WHICH HAVE BEEN ENGENDERED OVER THE YEARS CANNOT BE EASILY SWEPT AWAY. HOWEVER, IT IS HIS PRAYERFUL HOPE THAT THIS OPPORTUNITY FOR ENHANCING THE PEACE FOR OUR ONE WORLD, AND FOR ELIMINATING OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 MONROV 06881 171234Z

NATING THE DANGER OF WAR WILL NOT BE LOST. IT IS OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE THAT IT SHOULD NOT BE. I THEREFORE, IN THE NAME OF DR. WILLIAM R. TOLBERT, JR., PRESIDENT OF LIBERIA, CALL UPON THOSE WHO WILL PARTICIPATE IN THESE CRITICAL DELIBERATIONS TO BE GUIDED BY THE SPIRIT OF PERSEVERANCE, GENUINE GOODWILL, UNDERSTANDING, PATIENCE AND RECONCILIATION WHICH SURELY CAN LEAD TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A BENEFICIAL, PEACEFUL, AND FRUITFUL COEXISTENCE BETWEEN THE NATIONS AND PEOPLES OF THIS TROUBLED REGION OF OUR WORLD. IN THIS REGARD, LET ME EMPHASIZE THAT THE POSITION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF LIBERIA REMAINS UNCHANGED THAT SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 242 PROVIDES THE BEST

BASIS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THAT JUST AND LASTING PEACE
SO URGENTLY NEEDED IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

LIFE IS PRICELESS. EACH MAN ALIKE WISHES TO LIVE OUT
HIS LIFE IN PEACE, SO THAT HE MAY BE ABLE TO MAKE HIS
CONTRIBUTION TO THIS GOOD EARTH WHICH BY GOD'S GIFT WE
ALL SHARE. EACH HOPES, GOD WILLING, TO DEVELOP HIS
INDIVIDUAL CAPACITIES, TO ENJOY THE LOVE AND AFFECTION
OF FAMILY AND FRIENDS, TO EXPERIENCE THE LIFE OF THIS
WORLD IN FREEDOM AND WITH HUMAN DIGNITY. FOR SO MANY IN
THE MIDDLE EAST, THESE BASIC DESIRES AND INALIENABLE RIGHTS
HAVE NOT BEEN OBTAINABLE, NOR WILL THEY BE UNLESS THE
EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF PEACE WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE IN GENEVA
THIS WEEK MEET WITH A TIMELY MEASURES OF SUCCESS.

THOSE OF US WHO BY GOD'S MERCY AND GOODNESS ARE SPARED THE
TRAVAIL, THE TERROR, AND THE TRAGEDY OF WAR, HAVE A SPECIAL
DUTY SPIRITUALLY TO BE WITH THOSE WHO ARE LESS FORTUNATE,
TO JOIN IN THEIR HOPES FOR PEACE AT THIS CRUCIAL TIME
IN WHICH WE LIVE.

IN THE NAME OF DR. WILLIAM R. TOLBERT, JR., PRESIDENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA, I THEREFORE CALL UPON LIBERIANS
OF ALL FAITHS AND RELIGIOUS BELIEFS, AS WELL AS FOREIGN
RESIDENTS WITHIN OUR BORDERS, TO JOIN WITH HIM AND HIS
FAMILY IN SAYING A SPECIAL PRAYER IN OUR HOMES, CHURCHES,

MOSQUES OR WHEREVER WE MAY BE THAT THE ALMIGHTY, THE
PRINCE OF PEACE, WILL SO GUIDE AND DIVINELY INSPIRE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 MONROV 06881 171234Z

THOSE WHO WILL MEET IN GENEVA ON TUESDAY THAT THEIR EFFORTS
TO ESTABLISH A PERMANENT PEACE WITH JUSTICE IN THE MIDDLE
EAST WILL BE CROWNED WITH SUCCESS.

IN THE NAME OF PRESIDENT TOLBERT, I FURTHER CALL UPON ALL
CHURCHES, MOSQUES, AND PLACES OF WORSHIP TO PRAY FOR PEACE
IN THE MIDDLE EAST, AND AROUND THE WORLD; TO INVOKE THE
MERCIFUL AND DIVINE INTERCESSION OF HIM WHO IS THE FINAL
ABRITER OF HUMAN DESTINY.

MAY THOSE PRECIOUS LIVES WHICH HAVE ALREADY BEEN LOST
THROUGH THE SUCCESSIVE WARS IN THE MIDDLE EAST PROVE NOT
TO HAVE BEEN LOST IN VAIN; MAY A LASTING PEACE BASED ON
JUSTICE, FORGED THROUGH UNDERSTANDING, AND TEMPERED BY THE
SPIRIT OF GIVE AND TAKE, AND GENUINE GOODWILL, AT LONG
LAST COME TO REIGN IN THE MIDDLE EAST, AND FOR ALL PEOPLES,
FOR ALL TIME, THROUGHOUT OUR ONE WORLD.
UNQUOTE.

2. ASSUME DEPT WILL INSTRUCT TEL AVIV RE DELIVERY TO

PRIME MINISTER MEIR.

3. FOREIGN MINISTER DENNIS READ TEXT OF MESSAGE ON
TELEVISION SATURDAY NIGHT DECEMBER 15, AND DECEMBER 16
SUNDAY EXPRESS AND DECEMBER 17 LIBERIAN STAR CARRIED
STORIES CONCERNING STATEMENT. NEITHER INDICATED MESSAGE
WAS TO BE FORMALLY TRANSMITTED TO PRESIDENT NIXON AND
PRIME MINISTER MEIR.

MANFULL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 10 MAY 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, PEACE TALKS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973MONROV06881
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: MONROVIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731256/abqcefyo.tel
Line Count: 174
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02-Jan-2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <16-Jan-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGES ON MIDDLE EAST PEACE CONFERENCE
TAGS: PFOR, XA, US, IS, XF, LI, (TOLBERT, WILLIAM R)
To: STATE INFO TEL AVIV
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005